From: <u>Candidate Questions</u>

To: <u>LCHIII@stic.net</u>; <u>lcbjherrin@stic.net</u>

**Subject:** RE: What is maximum amount of money I can accept from PAC?

**Date:** Thursday, September 24, 2020 10:08:00 AM

Dear Mr. Herrin.

I apologize for the delay in responding to you. Our Law Department was able to answer your question in terms of what is provided by the City Charter and City Code. They provided the following response for me to share with you.

It is our understanding in providing the answer is that you did not sign the campaign contract under Chapter 2-2 of the City Code. Per the 2020 Candidate's Guide, no candidate for mayor or city council and their campaign committee shall accept campaign contributions in excess of \$400 per contributor per election from any person. In this case, "person" means any individual, corporation, partnership, labor union, or labor organization, or any unincorporated association, firm, committee, club, or other organization or group of persons, including a political committee organized under the Texas Election Code, except for the candidate and small-donor political committees. A small donor political committee is one has accepted no more than \$25.00 from any contributor during any calendar year, has had at least 100 contributors during either the current or previous calendar year, has been in existence for at least six months, and has never been controlled by a candidate. Such a committee shall not contribute more than \$1,000.00 per candidate per election for the offices of mayor and city council.

In addition, no candidate and his or her committee shall accept an aggregate contribution total of more than \$38,000 per election, and \$25,000 in the case of a runoff election, from sources other than natural persons eligible to vote in a postal zip code completely or partially within the Austin city limits. This limitation applies only to donors other than natural persons eligible to vote in a zip code in or partially within the city limits, so it does apply to PACS, and it is not relevant whether the address of the PAC is within or partially within the city limits.

I hope this is helpful. If you need additional information regarding state law on campaign finance, you may wish to contact the Texas Ethics Commission or your own attorney.

Sincerely,

Tara Olson

Marketing & Communications Consultant

Communications & Public Information Office

City of Austin

Direct: 512-974-2917 | Mobile: 737-228-3015

Email: tara.olson@austintexas.gov

**From:** Webmail lcbjherrin [mailto:lcbjherrin@stic.net]

Sent: Tuesday, September 8, 2020 8:48 AM

To: Candidate Questions <candidate.questions@austintexas.gov>

**Subject:** [Released] What is maximum amount of money I can accept from PAC?

## \*\*\* External Email - Exercise Caution \*\*\*

Louis C. Herrin, III Ichiii@stic.net 512 626-8133
District 4

## Question:

What is maximum amount money I can accept from a PAC?

Does the location of the PAC change this amount? ie Does the PAC with an Austin address have one amount and one without have another amount?

Thank You Louis Herrin

**CAUTION:** This email was received at the City of Austin, from an EXTERNAL source. Please use caution when clicking links or opening attachments. If you believe this to be a malicious and/or phishing email, please forward this email to <a href="mailto:cybersecurity@austintexas.gov">cybersecurity@austintexas.gov</a>.